

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the following remarks.

In response to the requirement under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372 to elect one of multiple independent and distinct inventions for prosecution in this application, the applicant elects Group I. consisting of claims 1-6.

Applicant traverses this restriction requirement because all the groups of claims in the application can be examined based on a single search without unreasonable burden on the examiner. There is no good substantive reason for the examiner insisting on this restriction.

The elected claims are in condition for allowance and applicant respectfully requests allowance of all the claims.

Please charge any fee deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

By /Michael E. Belk/

Michael E. Belk, Reg. 33,357

Senior Patent Attorney

(914) 333-9643